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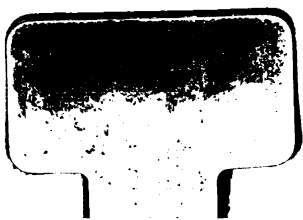
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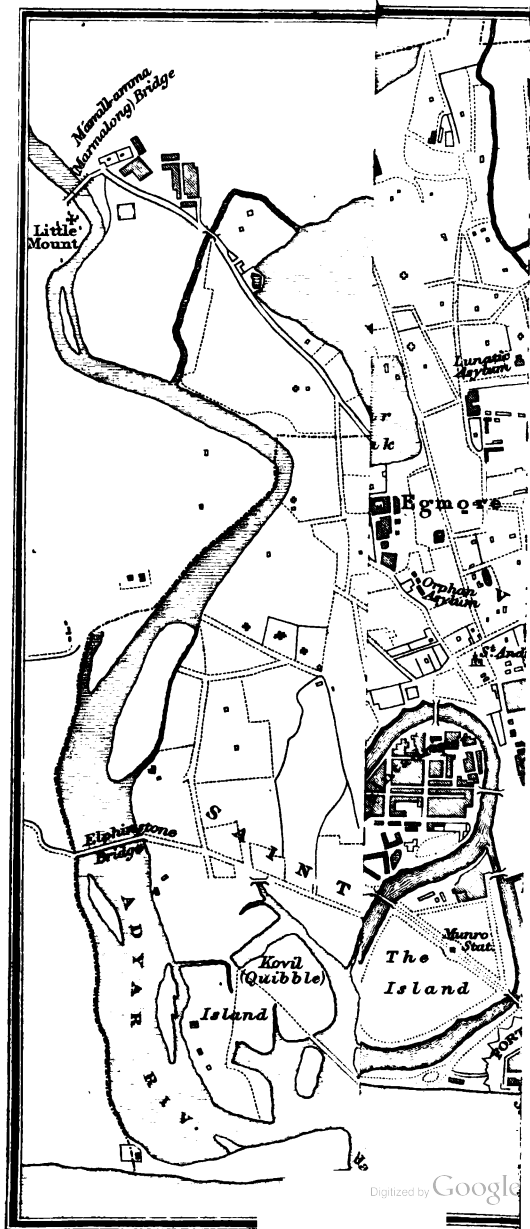
from F. F. F. F. F.

Madras. May 13. 1862



Jana F. F. F.

Madras. May 13. 1862



A
SHORT ACCOUNT
OF THE
MADRAS PRESIDENCY
For the use of Schools.

Third Edition, 2,000 Copies.



Madras:
RE-PRINTED BY GANTZ BROTHERS,
ADELPHI PRESS, 21, RUNDALL'S ROAD, VEPERY.
1861.

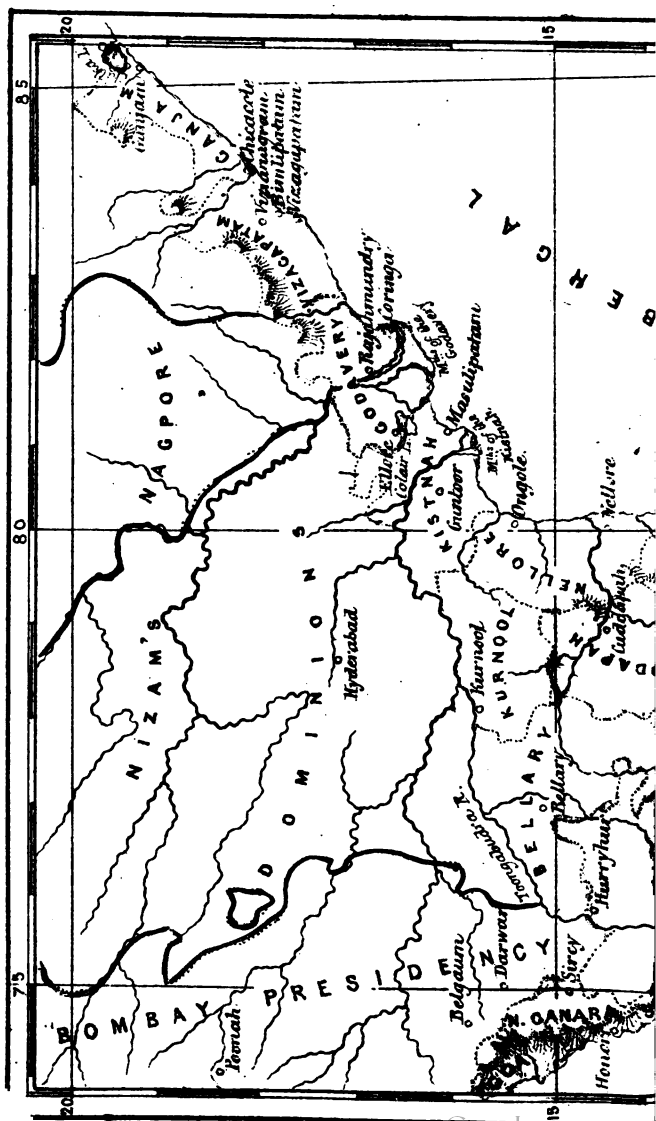
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B E N G A L



GEOGRAPHY.

THE Madras Presidency, is one of the four parts into which the great empire of India, belonging to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, is divided.

With several small dependent Native kingdoms it forms the southern part of India, and is sometimes called, as in the *Gazette*, the Presidency of Fort St. George.

It is bounded on the North by the district of Cuttack in the Presidency of Bengal, by part of the Nagpore territory, by the Nizam's dominions, and also by Dharwar in Bombay, and by Goa belonging to the Portuguese.

The Presidency itself is divided into 20 districts, seven to the North and East along the sea coast, on the Bay of Bengal, four to the South, three along the Western coast on the Indian Ocean, and six in the centre.

Those to the North and East are—Ganjam, Vizagapatam, Godavery, Kistna, Nellore, Madras, and South Arcot.

The four first are called the Northern Circars, and the three last named, with North Arcot, form what is called the Carnatic.

The districts to the South are—Tanjore, Trichinopoly, Madura, and Tinnevelly.

Those on the Western coast—Malabar, North Canara, and South Canara.

And in the centre—Bellary, Cuddapah, Kurnool, North Arcot, Salem, and Coimbatore.

The dependent States are Mysore, in the centre of the Presidency, which is governed by officers appointed by the Government of India in the name of the Rajah ; Coorg, southwest of Mysore, under the charge of the same officers, with Travancore and Cochin in the South-West, which are ruled by their own Rajahs.

The climate and soil of the Presidency are very different in different parts.

The Eastern portion, especially the Carnatic, consists of wide sandy plains, in which the climate is hot and dry, and the North-East monsoon, upon which it depends for its supply of water, is scanty and uncertain ; but there are few rivers of any size.

The Southern part of the Presidency, especially Tanjore, is more fertile, being watered by the Cavery, a fine stream, the waters of which are spread over the whole district.

The Western part of the Presidency, including Travancore and Cochin, is very rich and moist, the rain from the South-West monsoon being abundant and certain. It is separated from the other districts by the magnificent mountain-chain of the Western Ghats, the sides of which, as well as the uncultivated parts of the low lands, are covered with beautiful and valuable forest trees, such as the teak, &c., some of which grow to an immense height and size.

The Central Districts, including Mysore, are higher than the other parts of the Presidency, (generally nearly 2,000 feet above the level of the sea,) and are sepa-

rated from them by the Ghats, both Eastern and Western, which are the only high mountain ranges in the Presidency. The Pulney Hills in Madura, the Neilgherries in Coimbatore, and the Shevaroy's in Salem, are branches from these Ghats.

The chief rivers to the North are the Godavery and Kistna, which rise in the Western Ghats beyond the limits of the Presidency and fall into the Bay of Bengal in the districts of Godavery and Kistna, and the Toomboodra which falls into the Kistna near Kurnool ; to the South, the Caverry, which, being joined by the Bowany and Ameravutty in Coimbatore, falls into the sea in Tanjore, as does its branch, the Coleroon.

The population of the Presidency appears from the latest census (or account) to be about 22 millions.

Of these upwards of 20 millions are Hindus ; of whom 14 or 15 millions are ryots. Of the remaining two millions, the Mahommedans amount to about 1,800,000, and the Christian population, to nearly 200,000.

Several different languages are spoken in this Presidency. The Mahommedans in all parts speak Hindustani ; but the Hindus are divided into distinct nations, who speak separate languages.

Of these, the principal are the Telugu, the Tamil, the Canarese, and the Malayalim.

The Telugu is spoken in all the country North of a line running from the Pulicat lake, 30 miles North of Madras, through Chittoor, as far west as Bangalore in Mysore. In Mysore, and also in Bellary and Canara, Canarese is commonly spoken.

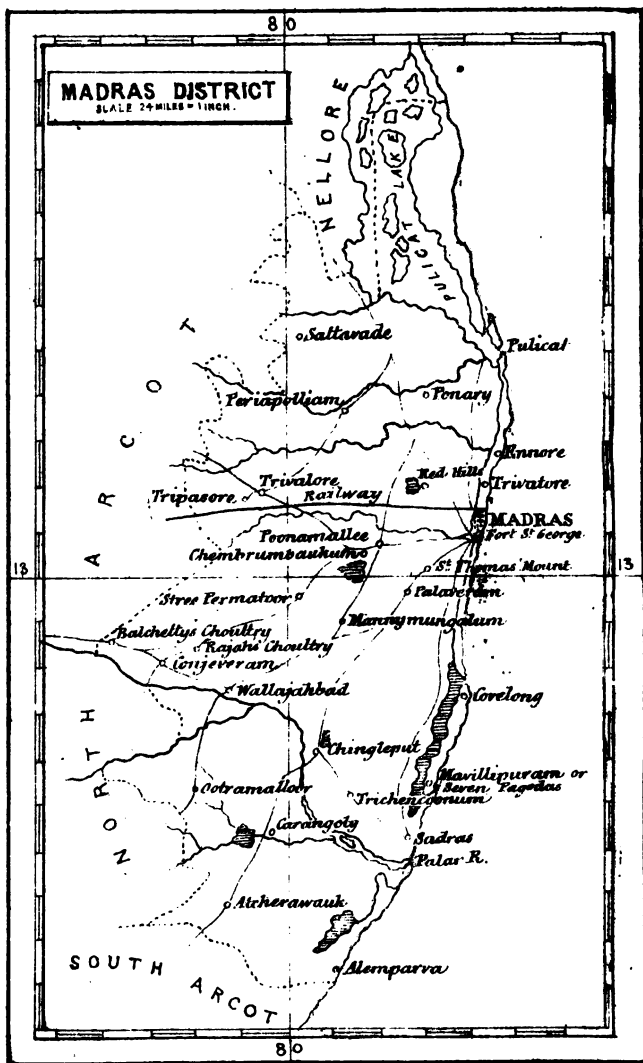
South of Pulicat, Chittoor and Bangalore, upon the Eastern side of the Presidency, the Tamil is the language of the people.

In Malabar, Cochin and Travancore, the Malayalim is used.

A great part of this Presidency was, in ancient times, under the Native Rajahs, divided into three kingdoms, the Pandynn, the Chola, and the Chera. Madura was the chief seat of the Pandyan Rajahs.

Tanjore, and afterwards Conjeveram, were the chief cities of the Chola kingdom, which reached at one time as far as the river Kistna.

The Chera included part of Mysore, with Coimbatore, and the residence of its Rajah was Caroor.



MADRAS.

This district now includes the late Chingleput district, which is sometimes called the Jaghire, because it was made over by one of the Nawabs of Arcot to the East India Company in the year 1763, as a payment for the use of their troops at various times.

Its length along the coast is 120 miles, and its breadth inland is generally about 45 miles.

The larger portion of the district is very flat and the soil poor, but in parts, especially near Chingleput and Sadras, there are many low rocky hills covered with brushwood, and between them, tanks and villages, hidden in fine tops of tamarind, banian and palmyra trees, which look very pretty.

From the palmyras, of which great numbers are grown, much oil is made, and their wood and that of other trees is largely brought into Madras for sale. The low shrub or jungle is also largely brought in for firewood.

The chief cultivation is paddy and dry grain, also the betel-vine, and a little sugar cane, but as there are no large sugar manufactories, that is only grown for eating in its raw state.

There are, in the district, some very large tanks, many miles round, as at Carangoly, Chembrumbaukum, the Red Hills, and Chingleput. They are the principal sources of the supply of water in the hot season, as the only river of any size in the district, the Palar, is nearly dry for nine months in the year.

The Palar rises among the Eastern Ghats in Mysore, enters the district near Balchetty's Choultry, and

passing about three miles south of the town of Chingleput, falls into the sea near Sadras, about 40 miles to the south of Madras.

The small town of Sadras at one time belonged to the Dutch, but was taken possession of by the English in 1795, restored again ; and finally given over to the English in 1819.

Pulicat, another of the chief towns of this district, situated about 30 miles to the North of Madras, was also built by the Dutch, and at one time was their principal settlement on the Coromandel Coast. It is still inhabited by the descendants of the Old Dutch residents, and is situated on the borders of a large lake of the same name, which would be more properly called a back-water : the water is salt and communicates with the sea near the town. The other principal towns are Chingleput, the seat of the Zillah Court, and Conjeveram, once the capital of the ancient Hindu state (the Chola kingdom), and a large and famous city, celebrated for its fine pagodas. Poonamallee, St. Thomas' Mount, and Palaveram, are well known military stations near Madras. At St. Thomas' Mount is the head quarters of the Artillery of this Presidency.

On the sea shore near Sadras, are the Seven Pagodas, called also Mavalipuram. They are small chambers cut out of the solid rock, and adorned with figures and inscriptions, some of which are in an ancient character now unknown. The face of one of the rocks is covered with figures representing a legend as the Mahabharat.

In the Southern part of the district many of the battles were fought, which ended in the French being driven out of the whole country except Pondicherry

and one or two other small places, and the English left to rule it alone. This part of the country has since enjoyed a peace, certainly never known since the appearance in it of the Mahommedans, and probably not even before that time. The French endeavoured to oppose the English power in India from the time of their first attack on Madras in 1746 till 1761, when the English took possession of all their settlements in India. Pondicherry, Carrical in Tanjore, Mahe in Malabar, and Yanam in Godavery, were, however, restored to them by the treaties made in 1814, and have since remained in their possession.

The population of the Zillah or district, by the last census, is 6,34,125.

NELLORE.

This district is immediately to the North of Madras and extends Northward 170 miles along the coast from the Pulicat Lake, where the two districts meet. Its breadth inland is about 70 miles.

Like other parts of the Carnatic it is generally level, with a poor stony soil, having small low hills scattered about it.

The district is divided from that of Cuddapah and Kurnool, on the West, by a range of hills forming the most Northern portion of the Eastern Ghats—of which the highest peak is 3,000 feet above the level of the sea.

The principal river is the Pennar, which rises in the Nundydroog hills in Mysore, and on which the chief town of the district, Nellore, is situated, about 20 miles from its mouth. The waters of this river are peculiarly suited to the production of Indigo; this plant is therefore largely grown on its banks, and there are several factories established to prepare it for use.

The town of Nellore, 111 miles from Madras, was at one time fortified, and in 1757, under a native ruler, successfully resisted a small British force, but was given over to the English at the same time as the rest of the Carnatic. Some small Roman coins were found buried there in the year 1787. Nellore is famous for its cloths, especially the long cloth made there. The only other town of importance in the district is Ongole, 189 miles from Madras, on the high road to Guntoor and Hyderabad.

Near Eskapilly, and at some other places on the sea coast, large quantities of salt are made. The sea is allowed to flow at high tide into shallow pans,



something like paddy fields, with low bunds round them to keep in the water, this water is evaporated or dried up by the sun, and leaves the salt at the bottom of the pans, like a white powder. This is gathered into heaps and sorted, to divide the finest and whitest from the coarser parts, and sold to merchants who take it to different parts of the country. It is also sold in large quantities, to be taken by ships to Calcutta.

A small quantity of copper ore was found in the district some years ago, but it was not worth the expense of working it.

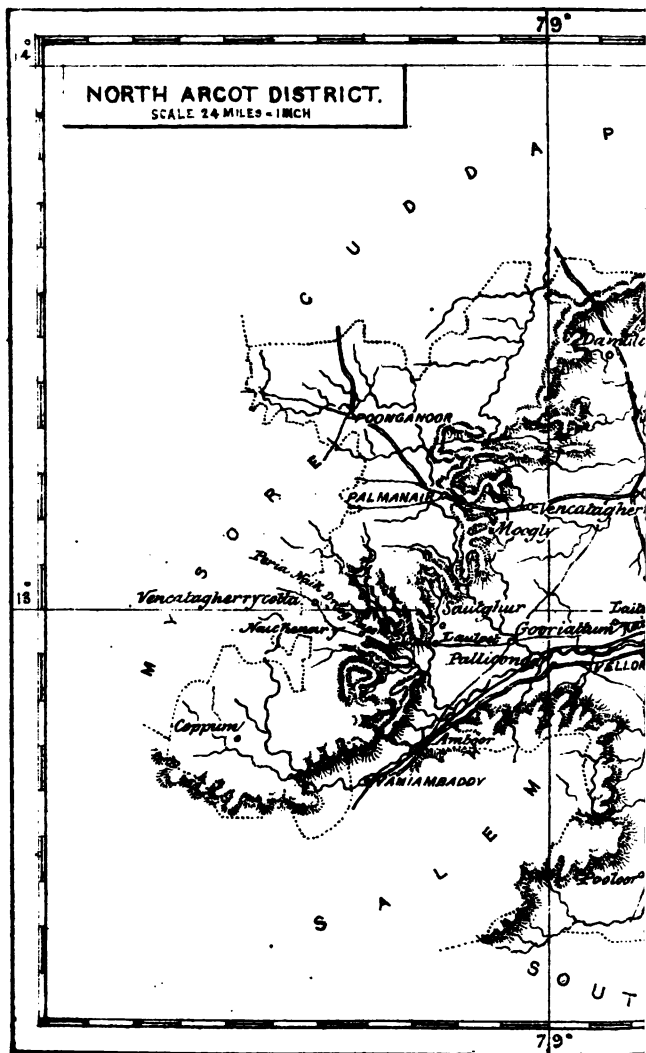
The principal wealth of the district is its breed of cattle, which are much valued all over South India, and are sometimes sold as high as 200 Rupees for a single pair of bullocks. In this, which is the first district Northward from Madras, Telugu is the language spoken, and to the North of it Tamil is almost unknown. In all these Northern districts, we find very few of those large pagodas, which are so common in the Southern provinces.

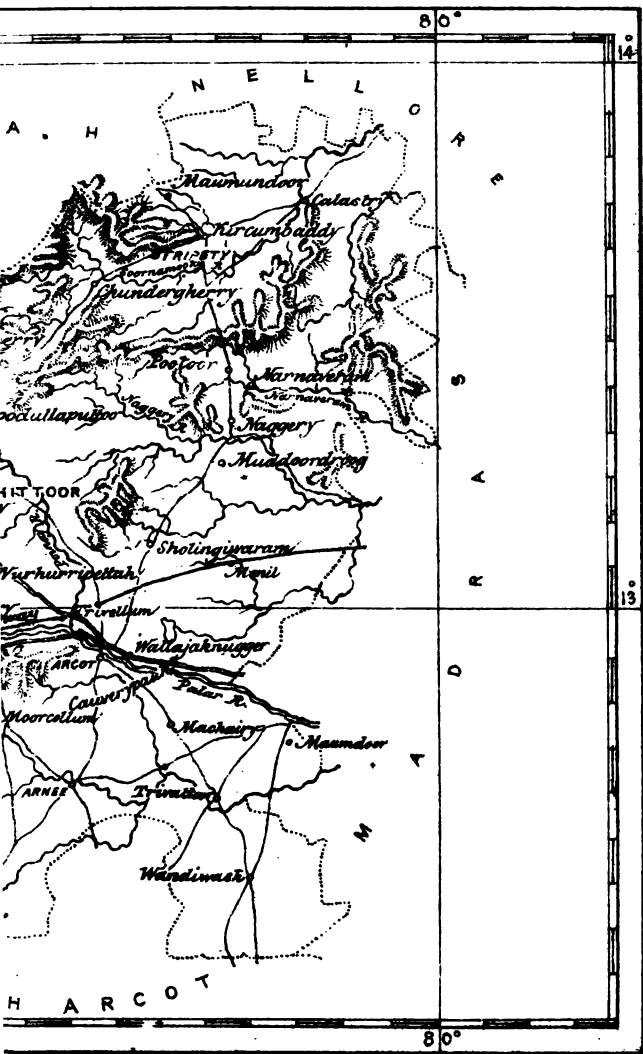
The number of the inhabitants of the district was, by the last census, 10,59,102.

CHITTOOR OR NORTH ARCOT

Is bounded on the North by Cuddapah and Nellore, on the East by Madras, on the South by Salem, and on the West by Mysore. A portion of the district is in the wide, flat, arid plains of the Carnatic, but towards the West small rocky barren hills are scattered over the surface of the country, which increase in number as they approach the Ghats. These Ghats, with a small tract of country on the level plain above them, form the Western part of the district. In the Northern part is also a fine bold range called the Naggery Hills, about 2,000 feet high. One peak of this range, called the Cumbrumbaukum Droog, is 2,600 feet, and another is a well known land-mark for ships. There are other smaller ranges near them. Two principal Passes through the Ghats connect the district with Mysore. The older one, called the Naickenary Pass, was formerly the one chiefly used. It is very steep, and difficult, so that bandy carts cannot go up or down it. The scenery around is very beautiful. The Moogly Pass, near the station of Palmanair, which is now preferred, is less beautiful but much easier, having a good road through it. Palmanair, at the head of this Pass, is about 2,500 feet above the level of the sea. These mountains are covered with low jungle, but in vallies between them are finer trees, and amongst them the teak, but of a smaller kind than that which grows on the Western coast.

Chittoor, about 100 miles distant from Madras, is the present chief town of the district, being the seat of the Zillah Court and the residence of the Collector. The other towns are Vellore, a military station, Arnee, Ar-





cot, and Wallajahnugger, which last is distant only about two miles from Arcot. It is a place of great trade, and a large manufacture of cotton cloths is carried on there.

When the Mussulmans ruled the country, Arcot was their capital, and the residence of the Nawabs of the Carnatic. It was first taken by the English in 1752, and afterwards bravely defended by Captain Clive, with a very small garrison, against a large native army, who were after 50 days obliged to give up the siege. Captain Clive became Lord Clive and Governor General, and was one of the principal founders of the English empire in India.

Towards the North of the district lies the town of Tripety, near which on a hill, is a famous pagoda, which is a favorite place of pilgrimage.

Not far from it, is the town of Chundergherry, once the capital of an old Hindu kingdom, which was overthrown by the Mussulmans about the year 1646. It was one of the Rajahs of this kingdom who first gave the English permission to settle at Madras, about 1640.

The chief productions of this district are rice and the usual grains of the country. Indigo is also grown to some extent in the low country, and sugar cane above the Ghats.

At the village of Sautghur, near the foot of the Naickenary Pass, very fine oranges are grown, so that its orange gardens are famous all over the Carnatic, and a great deal of the fruit is brought into Madras. The population of the district was calculated at the late census at 10,00,716.

CUDDALORE OR SOUTH ARCOT

Lies to the South of Madras and North Arcot, and is bounded on the East by the sea, on the West by Salem, and on the South by Trichinopoly and Tanjore. From the last it is divided by the river Coleroon.

Forming the Southern division of the Carnatic, its soil and appearance are much the same as those of the other parts of that portion of the Presidency, flat and sandy. But further inland a few low hills are scattered over the surface. The most remarkable of these is the hill of Gingee which has been very strongly fortified so as to have been considered almost impregnable. This was the scene of several battles during the long wars between the French and English, and was often taken and retaken.

The principal river in the province is the Coleroon, which is the most Northern branch by which the Ca-very empties itself into the sea. By means of an annicut, by which its waters are drawn off through two large channels, it is made to supply all the Southern portion of the district with water, and these parts are in consequence very fertile.

In this district, on the sea coast, at about 100 miles South of Madras, is the town of Pondicherry, which, with a small extent of country around it, belongs to the French, a nation of Europe, whose country is called France, and is near to England. They have four other stations in India, but Pondicherry is the largest and is where the French Governor lives. In the last century there was often war between the English and French, and the French at one time took Madras and kept it for four years. The English also frequently took Pon-

dicherry, first in 1761, and two years after restored it by a treaty made in Europe between the two kingdoms, and again at three later times during the war, but finally restored it to the French in 1815. It is a large town, and the streets are remarkably fine and regular for an Indian town.

The principal station of the district is Cuddalore, near the mouth of the Pennar river, about 20 miles South of Pondicherry. Near it is Fort St. David, which was one of the earliest factories, or stations for trade in the Presidency, and for a few years the seat of the Government, while Madras was in the hands of the French.

Chellumbrum is also a large place, and famous for its fine pagodas.

In this district the principal products are, as in others, rice and various dry grains.

The fish caught on the coast are dried and salted in large numbers, and sold to the people inland, to eat with their rice. This is also done on all the Eastern Coast.

On the coast are several salt pans for making salt from sea water, as in Nellore.

This district, before its possession by the English, formed part of the kingdom of Arcot.

It now contains 11,02,184 inhabitants.

TANJORE

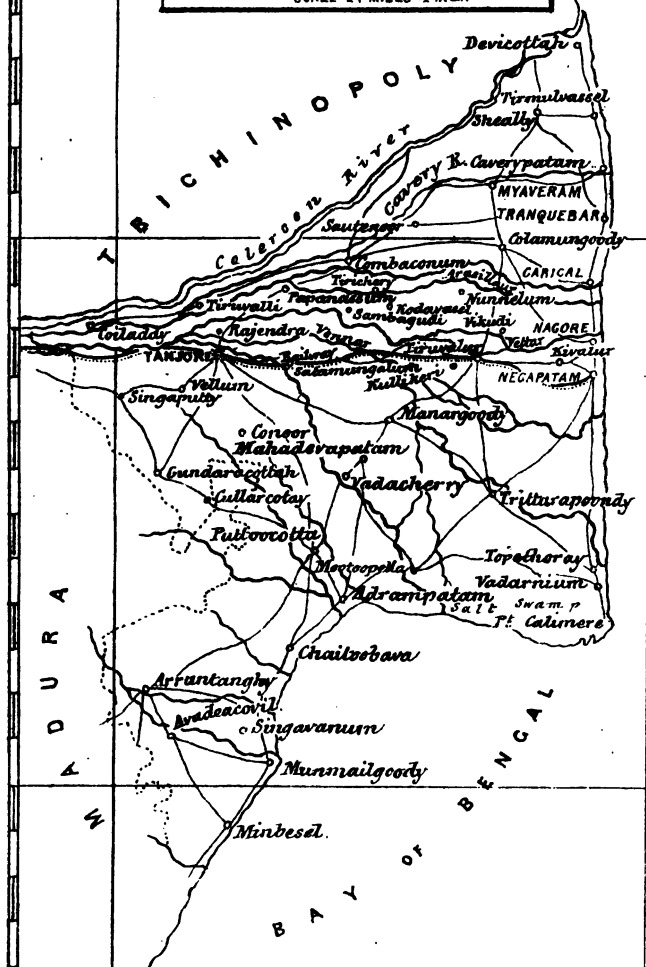
Is bounded on the North by South Arcot, on the North and West by Trichinopoly, on the South-West by Madura, and on the South and East by the sea.

It is separated from South Arcot and part of Trichinopoly by the river Coleroon. The Coleroon branches off from the Cavery at the island of Seringham in the district of Trichinopoly, whence it takes a North-Easterly direction to the sea.

The river Cavery rises in the mountains of Coorg, which are a part of the Western Ghats, and after flowing through Mysore is joined, in the Coimbatore district, by the Bowany, which rises at the foot of the Neilgherries, and by the Ameravutty, which rises in Travancore. The Cavery then passes through the district of Trichinopoly where it forms the island of Seringham. Here it is divided into many channels by which its waters are led over the whole district of Tanjore. The largest of these channels, which for size might be called rivers, are (next to the Coleroon), the Vettar which falls into the sea at Nagore, the Vellar which passes by Tanjore, and the Arsilar which flows into the sea near Carical. The small channel which retains the name of the Cavery reaches the sea at Caverypatam. Many of these channels are artificial, having been cut by different Rajahs in order to supply the country with water. The river becomes full in June, when the rain of the South-West monsoon falls in the Western Ghats. By these means a regular and abundant crop of rice is secured. Some of the rice is taken to Ceylon and sold there, as the rice grown on that island is very poor.

TANJORE DISTRICT.

SCALE 24 MILES = 1 INCH.



NORTH ARCOT DISTRICT
SCALE 24 MILES = 1 INCH

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Nair Kona
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of Ceylon from Point Calymere is very more than 50 miles, and during half the year the post from Madras to Ceylon crosses in a straight line to Jaffna. In consequence of the regular crops, the district of Tanjore is rich and

The capital of Tanjore is the residence of the Rajah, a large fortified city, and famous for its pagoda. Srirangam, another chief town of the district, is the largest and most populous in Southern India. Its pagodas are numerous and very fine. It is famous for its workers in brass. The other towns are Srirangam, Nagore, Negapatam, an old Dutch settlement and considerable sea port, and Tranquebar, which belong to the Danes. The last is a sea port, taking the place of Negapatam in importing to the better anchorage it affords to ships. It is chiefly inhabited by Mussulmans, and has a beautiful mosque, 150 feet high, which serves as a mark at sea. There is also the small French settlement of Carical, situated between Tranquebar and

the kingdom of Tanjore, which had formerly been part of the Chola kingdom, was conquered by Shahjee, the Mahratta chief, about the middle of the 17th century. Shahjee was the father of Sevagee, the founder of the Mahratta power. Tanjore was governed by the descendants of Shahjee until the year 1763, when it was taken from the reigning Rajah, Sevagee, by the Nabob of the Carnatic, with the assistance of the English. The latter however restored the country to Tuljahjee in 1775. It was governed by

him and his son Ameer Sing till 1798, when Serfogee, the adopted son of Tuljahjee, was placed on the musnud on condition that the English should govern the country, and the Rajah receive one-fifth of the revenue. The Raj is now extinct.

The manufactures of the district are cloths, silks and carpets. Sugar cane is grown, but not in great quantity. In this district were the first established Protestant Missions in Southern India. They were begun by the Danes in Tranquebar, and one of their missionaries was the well known Swartz, who was so much respected that the Rajah of Tanjore, Serfojee, was placed by his father under his care for education. The number of inhabitants is 16,57,285.

TRICHINOPOLY

Is bounded on the North by South Arcot and Salem, on the South-East by Tanjore, on the South by Madura, and on the West by Coimbatore. As already noticed, it is through this district the river Cavery flows, and is divided into two branches near the town of Trichinopoly, forming the island of Seringham. The Northern branch takes the name of the Coleroon, while the Southern, which is prevented from uniting again with the Coleroon by an annicut, is divided into many smaller rivers and led into Tanjore and over the whole of that district. The country is flat, though part of it is well cultivated, being supplied with water by channels from the Cavery.

Trichinopoly, the capital, is a large city, and having been fortified, was frequently the seat of war during the long struggle between the English and French, in the middle and end of the last century. During most of the time the English kept possession of it for their ally, the Nawab of the Carnatic, though the French repeatedly attacked it. The walls around the town are now in ruins, and the only part of the fortification kept up is a singular rock on the North of the town, on the bank of the river and on the top of which is a pagoda. Guns from this rock can command any part of the town.

On the island of Seringham are very large and famous pagodas.

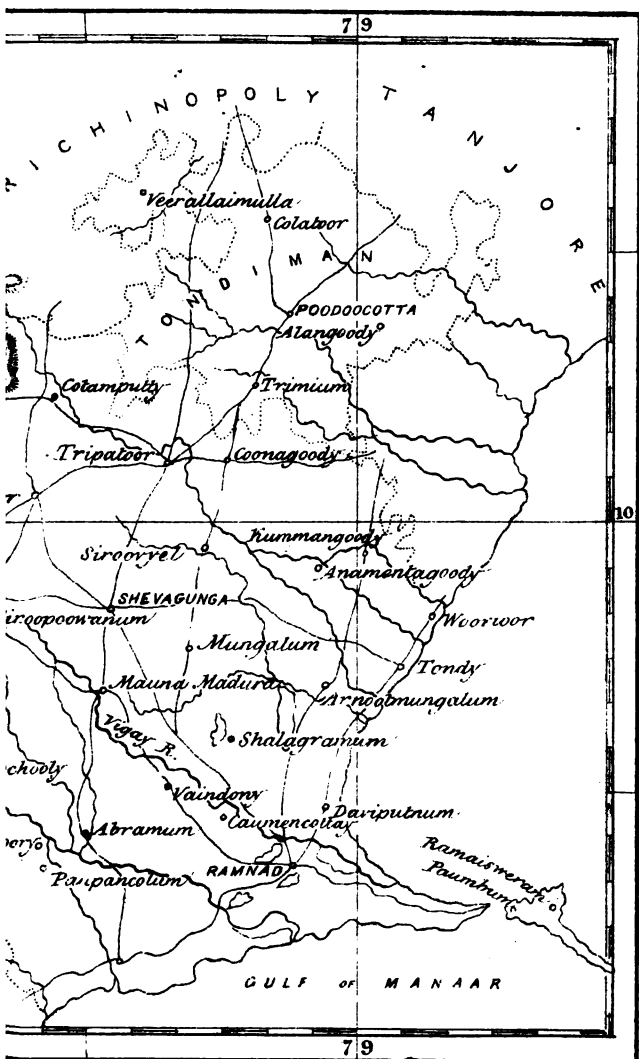
Trichinopoly is a place of much trade, the cloths, grain, &c., of the neighbouring districts being brought there for sale ; it is also a large military station.

The jewelry made there is much valued, and they also work well in leather.

The island of Seringham is celebrated as one of the resting places of Rama, king of Ayodhya or Oude, when he led a large army from the North of India to conquer the island of Ceylon, then called Lanka. Ramisseram was another, and is also held sacred for the same reason.

This district contains 8,09,580 inhabitants.





MADURA

Is bounded on the North by Coimbatore and Trichinopoly, on the East by Tanjore, on the South-East by the sea, on the South by Tinnevely and on the West by Travancore, from which, as well as Tinnevely, it is divided by the Western Ghats. From these Ghats a range of hills branches out in the Northern part of the district called the Pulney Hills. These hills rise to the height of between 6,000 and 8,000 feet above the level of the sea, the air in consequence is very cool, and the Europeans of the district go there to avoid the heat of the plains below. As it is not long since they were first known to be free from fever, much use has not yet been made of them.

The Sirroomallies are hills of small extent lying between Madura and Dindigul, and are about 3,500 feet in height. Some coffee is grown on them, and an attempt has been made by Europeans to inhabit them, but on account of the fever, which rages there during part of the year, it has been nearly given up. They are almost covered with the sweet-smelling lemon-grass, growing at some seasons to a great height.

In Madura are the two large Zemindaries of Shevanga and Ramnad. To the latter belongs the famous island of Ramisseram, to which pilgrims travel from all parts of India. From Ramisseram to the island of Manaar, close to the coast of Ceylon, is only a distance of about 60 miles.

The two islands are united by a bank of sand, stretching the whole way between them, which entirely prevents any vessels from passing from the Bay of

Bengal into the Gulf of Manaar, except by the Pauri-bem passage, between Ramisseram and the main-land.

This passage used to be very shallow and difficult, but it has lately been made ten feet deep throughout, by the Government, so that any small vessels can now pass through it, and avoid the long and sometimes dangerous voyage round Ceylon.

The principal rivers in Madura are, the Ameravutty which rises in Travancore, and flows into Coimbatore, where it joins the Cavery; and the Vigay, a small river which, rising in the Ghats and flowing past the town of Madura, falls into the sea near Ramnad.

The valley of Dindigul extending along the foot of the Ghats is fertile and beautiful, and supplies much black-wood and timber to the neighbouring provinces.

The chief manufactures in the district, are red turbans and handkerchiefs, and white and colored cloths, of which a considerable quantity is sent to other parts, as the dye used there is much admired.

In ancient times Madura was the chief city of the Pandyan Rajahs. A palace built by Trimul Naik, one of the race which succeeded the Pandyans, is still in existence, and is visited as a curiosity. It is an immense, massive building, beautifully carved, and is celebrated for a magnificent hall, adorned by a thousand granite pillars. This city was also at one time famous for the great learning of its Brahmmins, of whom there were very large numbers.

Though the district was overrun by the Mussulmans, yet it was never quite conquered by them, but was governed by its own Zemindars and Polyghar Chiefs.

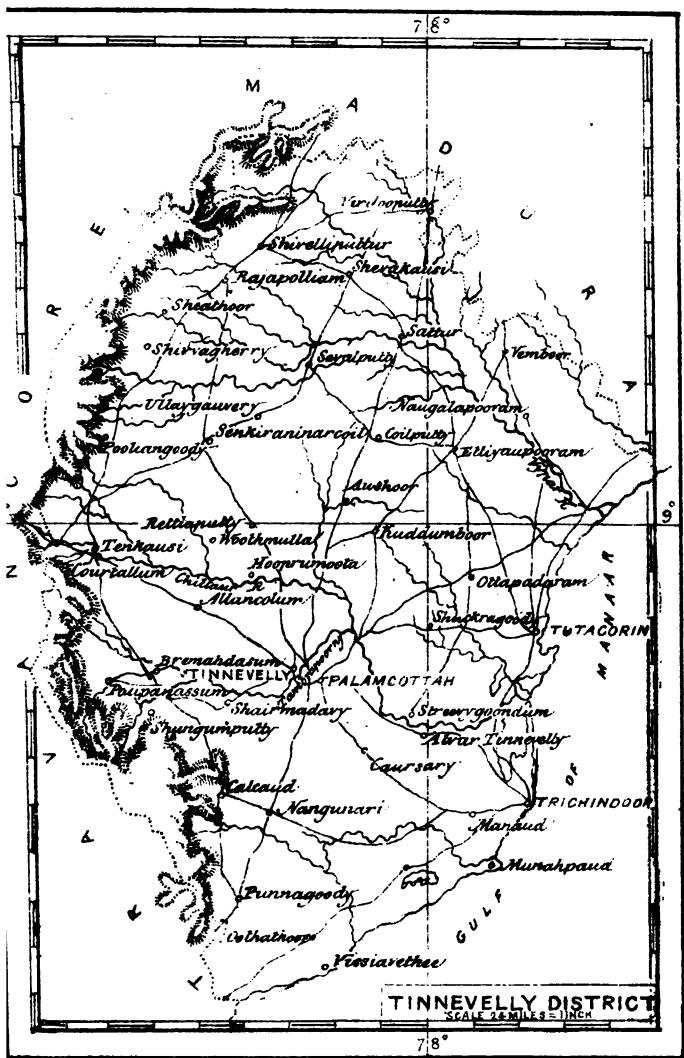
POODOOCOTTA

Is a small independent state, governed by its own Rajah, styled the Tondiman, who is, however, placed under the Guardianship of the Collector of Madura. The district of Madura, including Pooodocotta, contains 17,56,791 persons.

TINNEVELLY

Is the most southern district of the Presidency and extends to Cape Comorin, the most southern point of all India. It is bounded on the North and North-East by Madura, on the South by the Indian Ocean, which to the South-East forms the Gulf of Manaar, and on the West by the kingdom of Travancore. From this it is separated by the Western Ghats, which run in a Northerly direction from Cape Comorin. This chain of mountains prevents the clouds and rain of the South-West monsoon, which falls very heavily in Travancore, from passing over into Tinnevelly. During the months of June, July and August it is very strange to see the rain falling in torrents on the Western side of the mountains, and on their tops, while but a few stray showers reach the dry plains on the East.

Tinnevelly is however supplied with water by several streams which rise in these Ghats and are filled by the South-West monsoon. It also receives rain from the North-East monsoon. One of these streams, the Tambrapoorney, forms a beautiful waterfall at Papanassum, as it leaves the hills. It afterwards flows past the town of Tinnevelly and falls into the Gulf of Manaar. This river receives its name from its copper or red colour, which is given to it by the red soil through which it runs. The town of Tinnevelly, with the Fort of Palamcottah on the opposite bank of the river, is the principal station in the district. It is the usual residence of the Collector, and seat of the Zillah Court. At the foot of the Arangole Pass, is Courtallam, a station where many Europeans reside during June, July and August, in



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order to enjoy the pleasant, cool and moist wind, which rushes through the Pass. The Arangole Pass leads through the Ghats into Travancore.

As the rivers of Tinnevely are filled by the South-West monsoon which never fails, a good deal of rice is grown in parts of the district near their banks. Cotton is also cultivated and sent to England, but much of the district is a very poor sandy soil, where little but palmyra trees grow, and the people live almost entirely upon the jaggery and sugar, or toddy made from them, with a small quantity of grain and salt fish. The palmyra tree, while it thrives in a soil which will bear nothing else, is very valuable. Besides the jaggery and toddy just mentioned, oil is made from its nuts, the houses are thatched with its leaves, and their posts and rafters made from its wood. The bark is made into ropes and all sorts of cordage. Upon the coast pearl oysters are found, and the fishery for the pearls belongs to the Government. The pearls are small and not nearly so fine as those found in the Persian Gulf.

The chief Port in the district, and that a small one, is Tutacorin, which formerly belonged to the Dutch. Between this port and Ceylon a considerable trade is now carried on by small native vessels. From it and two other small ports in Tinnevely, many thousands of the poorest people go over yearly into Ceylon and get work in the coffee plantations, where they receive good wages. When they have saved a little money, they generally return to their native country.

Tinnevely contains 13,17,383 inhabitants, of whom about 40,000 are Christians.

BELLARY

Is bounded on the North by the Nizam's dominions, from which it is separated by the river Toongabudra, and on the West by the district of Dharwar in the Bombay Presidency—on the South by Mysore, and on the East by Cuddapah and Kurnool. A great part of the district is very flat, and it is remarked that there is scarcely a single tree to be seen in the whole district. A few topes or groves have however been planted within the last few years.

There are some rocky hills scattered about, and one of them, the Ramandroog, about 40 miles from the town of Bellary, is sufficiently high to form a cool retreat during the very hot weather. The whole district is a table land, nearly the same height as the Mysore. Its soil is in many parts rich and fertile, of the kind called the black cotton soil, which produces fine crops of cholum and other dry grain. Cotton is also grown, and small quantities of sugar cane. Copper was found in a hill about six miles from Bellary, and was worked by Hyder Ali, when the country was in his possession, but he soon gave it up, as the mine did not pay its expense, and it has not since been worked.

The earliest known history of Bellary is, that it belonged to the kingdom of Beejanugger, and in the former part of the 16th century, was given by the Rajah of Beejanuggur as a Zemindary to a Hindu Nair named Timmapa. He and his family held it, though they were frequently attacked by, and often paid tribute to, the Mussulmans, till 1769, when it was conquered by Hyder Ali. It formed part of his dominions, and those of his son, Tippoo, till the death of Tippoo, at the siege





of Seringapatam in 1792. Bellary, as well as Cuddapah, then fell into the hands of the Nizam ; but they were soon after ceded by him to the English, instead of the money to which they were entitled for the payment of troops furnished to him. For this reason Bellary and Cuddapah are often called the Ceded Districts.

The Toongabudra, which skirts the district on the North, is a fine river ; it has its rise in the Ghats in Canara, and taking a North-Easterly direction, joins the Kistna, near the town of Kurnool.

Near to the town of Bellary is the fort of the same name. On the top of the rock, within the fort, is an old Native fortification of singular strength—its only entrance is a narrow natural passage between two huge rocks, which is not large enough to admit more than two or three persons abreast.

The district is but scantily supplied with water, as there are few large tanks, but it receives part both of the South-West and North-East monsoons.

The number of its inhabitants is 10,64,925.

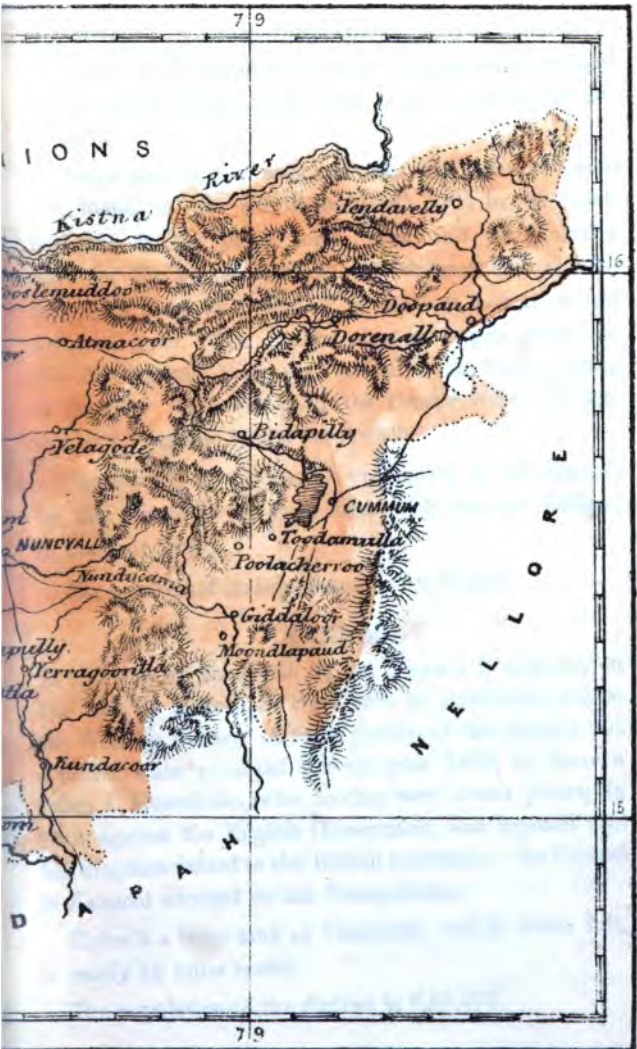
CUDDAPAH

Is bounded on the North by Kurnool, on the East by Nellore, on the South-East by North Arcot, on the South-West by Mysore, and on the West by Bellary.

It is divided into two distinct parts. The Northern which is hilly and covered with jungle, and the Southern which is mostly flat, open, and well cultivated. Like Bellary, much of the soil is the black cotton soil, but the boundary of hills, between it and Nellore, is clothed with jungle, among which are some fine trees, and a small kind of teak. There are no trees however of a size to compare at all with those of the Western Ghats. Cuddapah is almost out of the reach of the South-West monsoon and depends chiefly for its supply of water on the North-East monsoon, and as the latter is neither so heavy nor so regular as the former, none of the jungles on this Eastern side of India are so large or contain such fine trees as those on the Western Coast.

The principal river of the district is the Pennar which flows through the middle of the district from East to West, and passes into Nellore by a small break in the hills. The town of Cuddapah is built near it on the banks of two small streams, the Baga and Ralla, which flow into it. In 1852, in consequence of an unusually heavy fall of rain in November, these little rivers rose suddenly and overflowed nearly the whole town of Cuddapah. The flood washed away all the small houses close to its bank, and only the larger ones at a greater distance remained. Not many lives were lost, but a great deal of grain and other property were destroyed. As the flood passed on into Nellore, gain-





ing strength by every little stream that fell into it, it did still more mischief. Whole villages were washed away, many tanks burst, and large crops of rice destroyed.

Large quantities of soda and salt and some saltpetre are found in the soil of Cuddapah, more in the black soil than in the other sorts. This salt is generally used by the people both in this district and in Bellary with their food, instead of sea salt, but it is not nearly so good. The indigo plant is largely grown in the district, and there are several works for preparing it for use. The waters of the Pennar river are particularly favorable for its production.

The district of Cuddapah was ceded to the English by the Nizam at the same time with that of Bellary, in the year 1800.

The number of its inhabitants is 10,59,102.

KURNOOL

Is bounded on the North by the Nizam's Dominions, on the East by Nellore, on the South by Cuddapah, and on the West by Bellary. A large portion of this district was a native state, governed till the year 1839, by its own ruler, a Mussulman, who, having been found joining in plots against the English Government, was deposed, and his kingdom united to the British territories. Its Capital is Kurnool situated on the Toongabudra.

There is a large tank at Cumnum, which, when full, is nearly 40 miles round.

The population of the district is 6,55,670.

MYSORE

- Is a large kingdom in the midst of the Madras Presidency, under a government quite distinct from it, but equally subject to the Supreme Government of India at Calcutta.

It was an ancient Hindu kingdom, which was usurped by Hyder Ali about 1767, but, when his rule was overthrown by the taking of Seringapatam and the death of his son Tippoo in 1792, it was restored to the Native Rajah. By him it was governed till 1829, when in consequence of the state of the finances, the English government took it under their own care. A large pension was assigned to the Rajah, upon which he has lived ever since in the town of Mysore. The country has been ruled by a Commissioner appointed by the Governor General. It is divided into four districts called Nuggur, Chittledroog, Astagram and Bangalore divisions, which are managed by Superintendents under the Commissioner, and the small kingdom of Coorg forms another district under the same authority.

The whole of the Mysore country is considerably higher than the plains of the Carnatic, being between 2,000 and 3,000 feet above the level of the sea. On the South lies the district of Salem, from which it is separated by the Eastern Ghats, while that of North Arcot on the East extends a short distance above the Ghats. On the South-West lies Coimbatore, on the West Coorg and the districts of Malabar and North and South Canara, and on the North it is bounded by Bellary and Cuddapah.

Mysore, in general, is not a fertile or rich country except the division of Nuggur in the North-West, bor-

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dering on Canara. It has but few rivers or large tanks, but while the West wind blows through the monsoon it brings with it a considerable fall of rain, and the climate is then very cool. It is too far from the Eastern Coast to receive usually much of the North-East monsoon. The country is composed of gently sloping hills and vallies, with but few trees, and here and there single rocky hills which are more in number and larger in size towards the North.

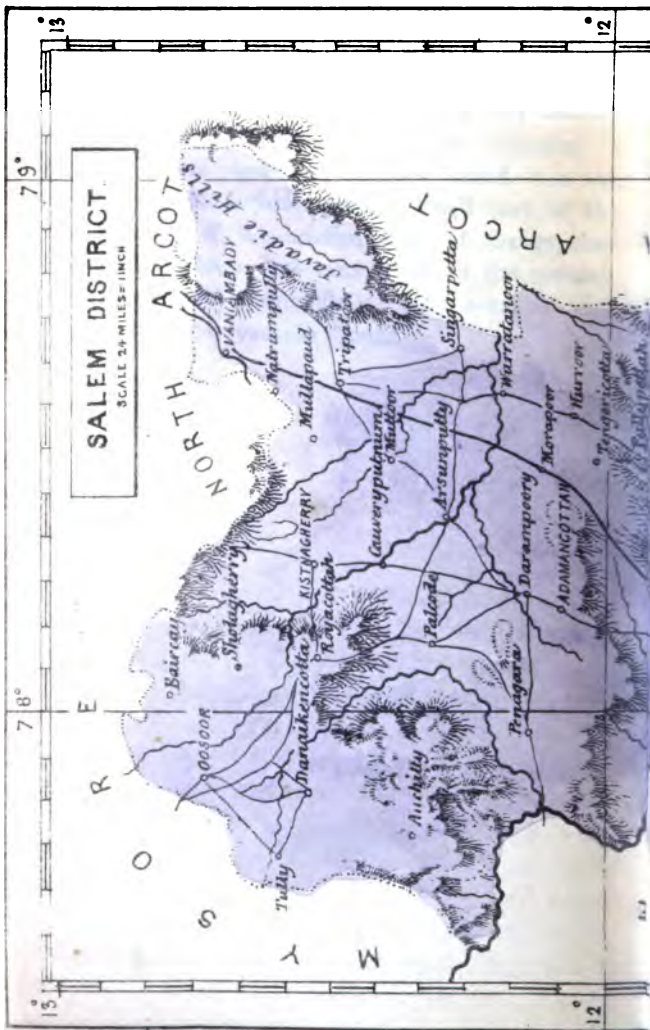
The principal towns are Bangalore, a very large military station, and the residence of the Commissioner ; Mysore, which was the ancient capital, and is still a large native town ; and Seringapatam is an island of the Cavery, where Hyder Ali built a fort, and which he made his residence and the capital of his kingdom.

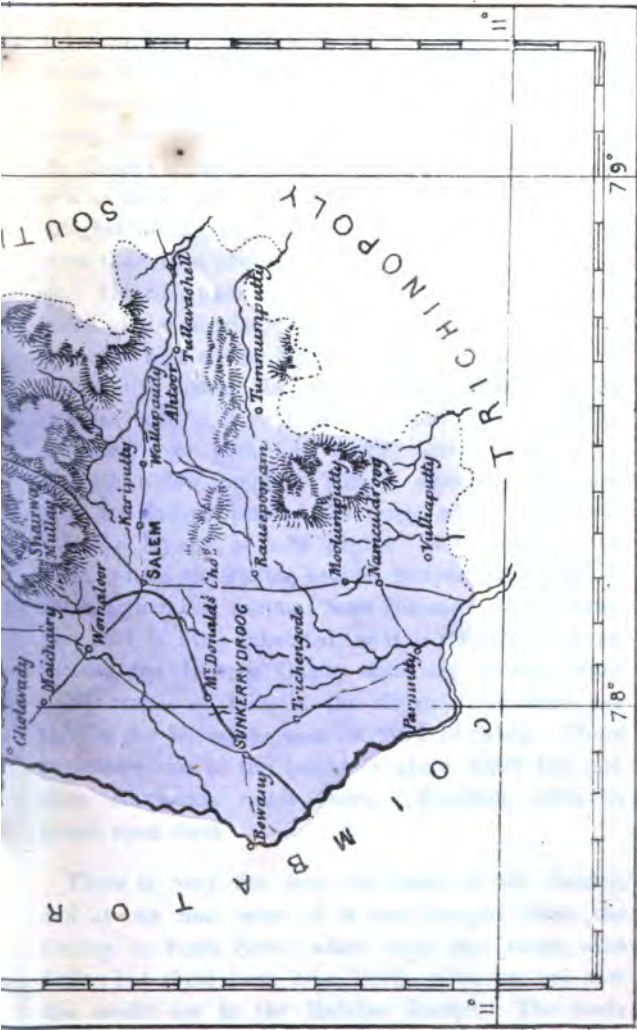
COORG

Is a small tract of mountainous and wooded country lying to the South-West of Mysore. It is bounded on the other sides by Malabar. It is a singular country being composed almost entirely of high mountains with narrow vallies between them, except towards the North, where there are rather extensive tracts of table land. Towards the East the sides of the mountains are entirely covered with immense forests, the trees of which are often of great size. The whole of the Southern and central parts of the country abound also with wood, though in the valleys between the ridges of hills there is a little cultivation. Towards the North, however, the wood greatly decreases. The line of Ghats which terminate the dis-

trict towards the West are very lofty and beautiful, and also covered with splendid forests.

The climate is unhealthy for the natives of Mysore or of the low country, but not for the natives of Coorg itself. From its coolness, it is generally very healthy for Europeans. The chief towns are Mercara, a military station, and Virajenderpet which was the residence of the Rajahs. But a small part of the population are of the original race of Coorgs, they are the landholders and richer men of the country. The labourers and poorer classes have come at various times from the countries around.





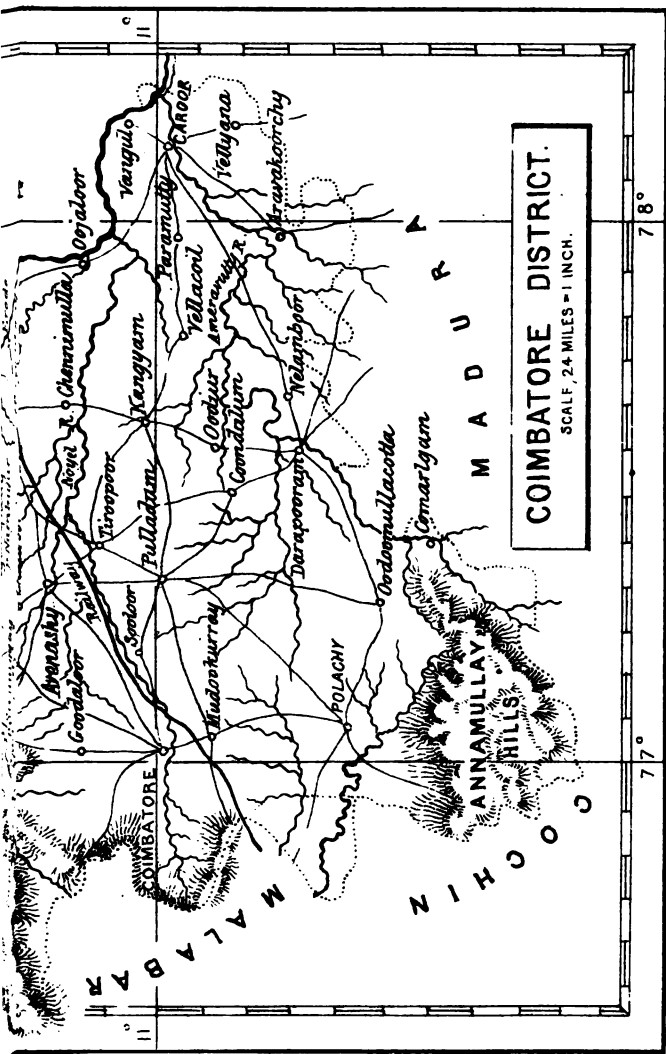
SALEM

Is bounded on the North by Mysore and North Arcot, on the East by South Arcot, on the South-East by Trichinopoly, and on the South and West by Coimbatore, from which it is separated by the river Cavery. The district is partly on the low flat plains of the same level as the Carnatic, but it includes a portion called the Balaghat on the same table land as the Mysore country above the Ghats, about 3,000 feet above the level of the sea. The rich plain called the Baramahl, lying in the centre of the district, is higher than the low country, yet not so high as the Mysore. Much of the Northern part of the district, in which lie the Eastern Ghats together with a large tract of country at their feet, is spread over with low rocky barren hills, covered with a low jungle. This is especially the case with the Eastern part of the range where the ascent into the Mysore is very gentle. More towards the West, where the Passes become steeper, the jungle is much higher, and contains some fine and valuable trees. This part is little inhabited, as it is subject to fever. Besides the Eastern Ghats, there are several other small ranges of hills in the district. Of these the chief is the Shevaroy's near the town of Salem. These mountains rise to the height of about 6,000 feet and some Europeans reside there. Excellent coffee is grown upon them.

There is very fine iron ore found in the district, and at one time some of it was brought down the Cavery to Porto Novo, where large iron works were built ; but these have been lately given up, and now the works are in the Malabar district. The roads

in this district are much better and more numerous than in most others. They are all planted with avenues of trees and are kept in order by the people of the villages near them. Salem is noted for the manufacture of well tempered steel, which is superior to that made in any other part of Southern India. The number of inhabitants in the district is 12,68,200.





COIMBATORE

Is bounded on the North by Mysore, on the West by Malabar and part of Cochin, on the South by Madura, and on the East by Salem, from which it is separated by the river Cavery.

The Central and Eastern parts of the district are flat and not very fertile, but the Northern division of Colligal is entirely covered with small ranges of hills clothed with dense jungle. This part is but thinly inhabited, being feverish, but a fine Pass, the Has-sanoor Ghat, with a good road, has lately been cut through it, leading into Mysore.

To the West of Colligal lie the Neilgherry Hills, separated from it, by a deep valley through which the Moyar flows to join the Bowany. Up this valley winds an old Pass called the Guzzlehutty. The Neilgherries are the highest mountains in Southern India, being 8,000 feet above the level of the sea. The climate is in consequence cold, and many Europeans visit these hills, in order to regain their health, which has suffered from the heat of the low country. The climate is rather like that of the South of Europe.

On the South-West border of Coimbatore lie the Anamullays, also a high range of hills, the sides of which are covered with very dense forests. In these forests are many very valuable trees, especially teak, which grows to a great size. Between the Anamullays and some lower ranges at the foot of the Neilgherries, lies the Palghat valley, which is the only break in the long chain of the Western Ghats, from Cape Comorin, until almost as far North as Bombay, and the only

place through which the Railroad can pass from the Eastern to the Western Coast.

At the foot of the Neilgherries rises the river Bowany which takes an Easterly direction till it reaches the Cavery, into which it falls at the town of Bowany. The Noyel (another river) rises in the Anamullays, and flowing past the town of Coimbatore, joins the Cavery near Caroor. The Ameravutty rises in Travancore and falls into the Cavery not far from Caroor. The chief town of the district is Coimbatore, the residence of the Judge and the Collector. Ootacamund on the Neilgherries, is a large European station, and three smaller ones are formed on the same Hills, at one of which barracks for part of an European regiment are being built.

The principal productions of Coimbatore are tobacco, cotton, and the usual grains. There is more dry than wet cultivation. Wild elephants used to abound in the forests at the foot of the various hills, but few are now found, their numbers either having become smaller from being frequently hunted, or they have retired more into the depths of the forest. A small quantity of coffee is grown on the Neilgherries.

Coimbatore appears to have formed anciently a part of the Chera kingdom ; Hyder Ali and his son Tippoo numbered it among their dominions, and from their hands it passed into those of the English. It now contains 11,96,540 inhabitants.

TRAVANCORE

And COCHIN are two small Native kingdoms on the South-West coast of India. During the wars between the English, and Hyder, and Tippoo, their Rajahs took the side of the English, who have therefore confirmed them on their thrones.

Travancore is by far the larger. It extends Northwards from Cape Comorin, and is bounded by the districts of Tinnevely and Madura on the East, by the sea on the South and West, and on the North by Cochin.

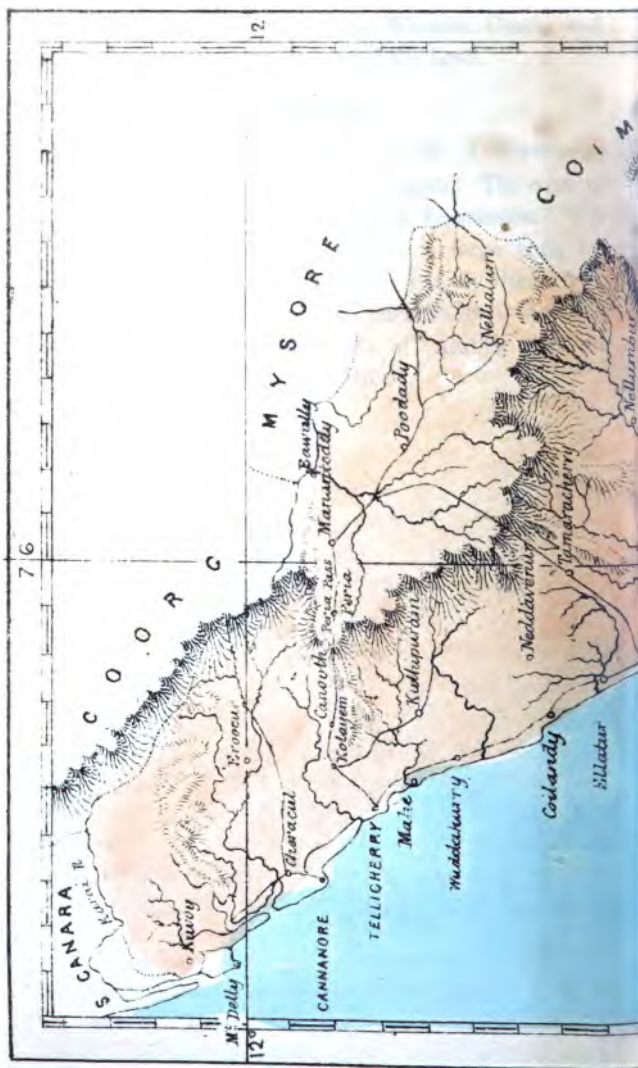
The boundary between it and Tinnevely runs on the heights of the Ghats, and includes the South-West point of India. Scarcely any of the country is flat: it consists almost entirely of smaller ranges of hills running down from the highest peaks towards the sea. On the coast are numerous back-waters which run up far into the valleys between. In consequence of the immense quantity of rain which falls during the South-West monsoon, the soil is very fruitful. Towards the sea it is well cultivated, but more inland, the hills become too steep. They are there covered with very thick jungle: the trees grow to an immense size and some of them, such as the teak, are very valuable. The residence of the Rajah and the Court is at Trevandrum, a large city near the sea, in the Southern part of the country.

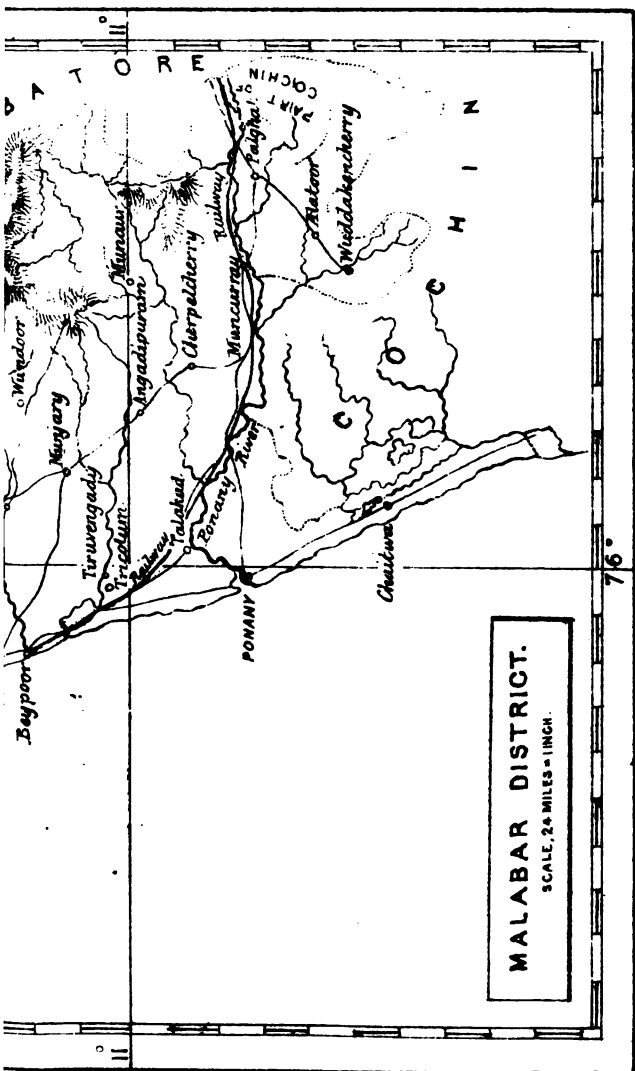
Travancore is almost entirely inhabited by Hindus, as it was never conquered by the Mussulmans, almost all the principal people are Nairs, who are very different in their habits and customs from other Hindus.

They are found throughout the Western Coast, and are generally rich, and hold most of the land.

COCHIN

Is a small territory lying to the North of Travancore and governed like it by a native Rajah. The country is similar in all respects to that of Travancore. The town of Cochin, however, which is a large port, belongs to the English, having been taken by them from the Dutch in 1798. It has a considerable trade with the Persian Gulf and the coasts of Arabia, and the building of ships is largely carried on.





MALABAR

Is bounded on the North by the Karai river which separates it from South Canara, on the East by Coorg, from which it is divided by the Ghats, Mysore, and Coimbatore, and on the South by Cochin and the Cletwai Island, a narrow strip of coast which carries the district down to the town of Cochin, which belongs to the district of Malabar. The length of the district is about 100 miles, and the breadth varies as the mountains approach or retire from the coast. It is generally from 10 to 20 miles, except where the Wynaad and the Palghat valley stretch 50 miles inland. The district, lying as it does at the foot of the high range of the Western Ghats, is very rugged in the interior. The hills run down far into the plains, and from them flow many rivers, which, from the shortness of their course, are not generally of any size. The sea coast is usually flat and sandy. The rivers, before falling into the sea, frequently form back-waters or lakes and swamps of varied length and size. These are much used for the inland traffic by boats.

The early history of Malabar is obscure. The tradition of the country is, that the ocean once washed the foot of the Ghats, and that when the district emerged it was peopled by Hindus. The province was long subject to the Pandyan kingdom of Madura, and was ruled by a Viceroy till, several centuries back, it became divided among its own native princes who were constantly at war with each other. The Zamorin Rajah of Calicut, the most ambitious, gradually became the most powerful, and was so when the Portuguese

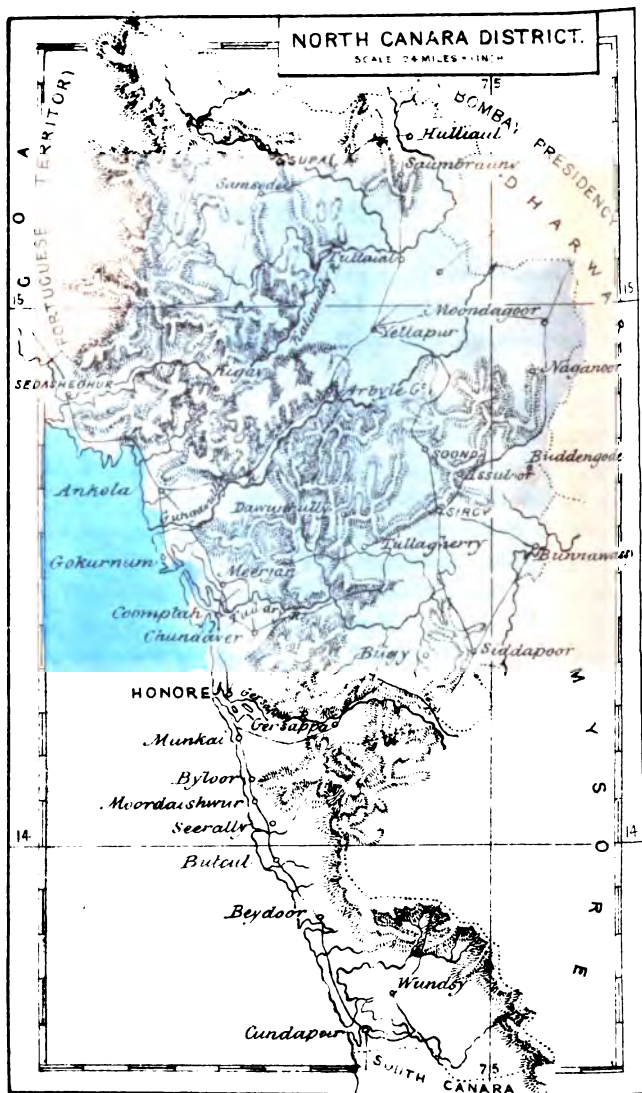
first visited the country in the end of the 15th century. Easy of access as it is from Arabia and Persia, with which the Malabar Coast has traded from the most ancient times, Arabs were constantly settled there, and their descendants are the class now known by the name of Moplas and Lubbies on the Coromandel, or Eastern Coast.

The various European nations early established factories on the Malabar coast, and among them the English East India Company at Tellicherry for the pepper trade.

Malabar continued to be ruled by its own independent princes till the oppression of the Zamorin forced the Palghat Rajah to pay tribute to Hyder Ali in 1770, in order to gain his protection. The result of this was the gradual conquest of the whole country by the Mysore forces. The oppression and bigotry of Tippoo Sultan desolated the country, and so roused the anger of the Hindu inhabitants that, on the breaking out of the war of 1791-92, they sided with the English, and the whole province was formally ceded by the treaty of 1792 to the East India Company.

Malabar enjoys a never-failing supply of water, which it owes to being within the range of the South-West monsoon. The average annual fall of rain is 120 inches. Large quantities of rice are grown, as well in the extensive paddy flats as in the higher grounds. This is the food of the people, and the surplus finds an easy export both by sea and land into Coimbatore. The other productions are cocoanuts, pepper of a fine quality, ginger, and timber (teak, blackwood and cedar,) from the forests. Arrowroot grows wild in the district.

This district contains 15,87,312 inhabitants.





CANARA

Is a narrow strip of land extending 200 miles along the Western Coast, and seldom more than 40 miles inland, and in places where the Ghats approach the sea, it is but a few miles wide. On the South it is bounded by Malabar, on the East by Coorg and Mysore, and part of the Collectorate of Dharwar, in the Presidency of Bombay, on the West by the sea, and on the North by the small territory of Goa, which belongs to the Portuguese. The Portuguese are a people who come from a country called Portugal, in the South of Europe, and were the first of the European nations to settle in India. They had at one time many stations on the Western Coast of India, but Goa, with a small tract of country around it, is all which now remains to them.

Canara is divided into two districts, North and South Canara. The chief towns of the former are Honore and Sircy, and of the latter is Mangalore, the first and last are each the residence of a Judge. The three Eastern talooks of North Canara are frequently called the Balaghaut, being situated on the higher land on the Eastern side of the range of the Ghats by which they are separated from Canara. Payenghaut, or lower Canara, is the strip of land between the mountains and the sea.

Canara Balaghaut is a very beautiful country, varied with hill and valley, the Northern part almost entirely covered with dense forest. Towards the South the trees decrease, and near the frontier of Mysore are large open cultivated tracts. In this part are the celebrated falls of Gersappa, which rank high among the most beautiful falls in the world. They are formed by the

river Gungawutty, which falls a height of about 1,000 feet, without any break in its descent.

Canara is watered by many rivers, though none are large. The principal are the Kakinuddy, which falls into the sea near Sedashegur. This river is navigable for 20 miles from its mouth. The Tuddery possesses the largest entrance and deepest basin of any of the rivers of the district, and the deposit of earth which it brings down during the rains, and spreads around its mouth, is very great, and has made one of the most fertile and best cultivated parts of the district. The Gungawutty, already spoken of, falls into the sea at Honore. At Mangalore, two rivers unite, and form a large back-water. By them great quantities of produce is brought to the town, as they are navigable for many miles. Besides these there are many other smaller rivers, and it is on their banks that almost all the towns and villages of Canara are placed. The rest of the country is too rocky and barren to allow of much cultivation, it is only where soil has been brought down by the rivers, that there is sufficient to grow any crops.

Canara, like Malabar, is watered by the South-West monsoon, which falls almost incessantly during the months of June, July and August, and in consequence of that immense fall of rain, and the nearness of the elevated Ghats, the climate is rarely hot, never indeed, so much so as that of the Eastern Coast. It is however trying to the health of many on account of its great moisture.

A considerable trade is carried on by the different ports of these districts with Bombay and the Persian Gulf, in red pepper, cardamums, and the beautiful woods of the jungles, such as sandal-wood and ebony.

Arrowroot and sago, are also exported to England. On this coast is also grown the areca-nut palm, the fruit of which is the betel-nut which is used all over the country. This province was greatly oppressed by Tippoo, who carried many of its inhabitants into Mysore, from which but few returned. It fell with his other dominions into the hands of the English at his death in 1792. The number of inhabitants in North Canara is 4,83,336, and that of the South is 6,43,602.

GANJAM

Is the most Northern division of the Madras Presidency, and is bounded on the North by the province of Cuttack in the Bengal Presidency. On the East it is bounded by the Bay of Bengal, on the South by the district of Vizagapatam, and on the West by a tract of almost unexplored hill country, between it and Nagpore.

On the Northern limits of the district and nearly dividing it from Cuttack is the Chilka Lake. This Lake, which is only separated from the sea by a narrow low strip of sand, is about 35 miles long, and but rarely more than eight miles broad and contains several islands which are inhabited.

There are no large rivers in this district, but it is well watered by small ones which rise in the hills in its Western parts. These hills, though not of any great height, are densely covered with jungle. They are like most other lower hills in South India, very feverish to the inhabitants of the plains. But a rather numerous race of people live in them called the Khonds. They are wild and barbarous tribes, and as it is almost impossible to follow them into their native hills, they have often come down and burnt and destroyed villages in the low country. These tribes were formerly accustomed to sacrifice children to the earth-goddess in order to procure good crops. The British Government has forbidden this cruel and inhuman practice, and it is now almost given up.

Though the town of Ganjam is considered the capital of the district, yet having been nearly deserted in the year 1835, in consequence of a fever which carried



off a large number of the inhabitants, it is smaller and of less importance than Chicacole. The latter is in the Southern part of the district, and is the residence of the Judge.

At Aska there is a large sugar manufactory, and a great deal of sugar is sent from it to England. Munsoorcotta and Calingapatam are both sea ports which are rapidly increasing in size, and a considerable trade in rice and oil seeds is carried on from this district.

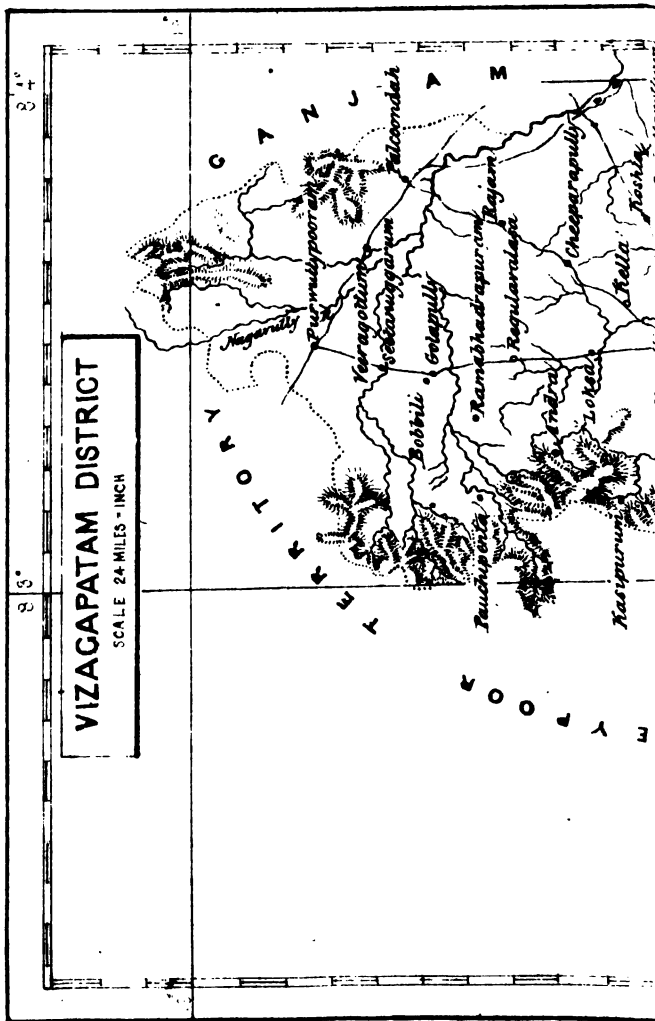
Ganjam is entirely dependent on the North-East monsoon for its supplies of water, and therefore, they are rather uncertain. Besides dry grain and rice the sugar cane is largely cultivated to supply the works at Aska. Its history is the same as that of the other portions of the Northern Circars. The number of its inhabitants is 9,26,900.

VIZAGAPATAM

This district, the largest of the Northern Circars, joins on the south that of Godavery, and on the North that of Ganjam—on the East a chain of hills, which runs nearly parallel to the coast at a distance of about 40 miles, forms a natural boundary—on the West is the Bay of Bengal. This range of hills reaches from the Godavery to the Mahanuddy river, and beyond it are several native states, of which the principal are Bustar and Jeypore. Small ranges of hills are to be met with all over the country.

The town of Vizagapatam, which is the chief town of the district, is situated at the mouth of a stream which forms a convenient harbour for small vessels: there are also docks for shipping, and vessels of 300 tons burden have been built in them. Close to the town is the fort, once a place of some consideration, but now of little or no use. Three miles from the fort, and on high ground overlooking the sea, is the cantonment and civil station of Waltair. Its climate, being healthy and cool, is particularly agreeable to Europeans. Vizagapatam is noted for its boxes and other elegant and useful articles made from elk and buffalo horn. The gold and silver filagree work is also ornamental and very elegant. It has also a considerable trade in rice.

Next in importance to Vizagapatam is the town of Ankapilly, wealthy and thickly inhabited. It is situated on a small river which irrigates a large tract of country in its vicinity. The soil is very rich, and sugar cane is cultivated in great quantities—the grower, after converting the juice into jaggery, finds a ready sale



for it at the factory of Bimlipatam, where sugar works on a very large scale and under European management, have been for a long time established. Sugar is also made by the Ryots themselves, but it is of a coarse description and badly refined. Sugar cane is likewise grown in other parts of the district.

There are several descriptions of cloth made at Ankapilly and throughout the district, but not equal to those made in the neighbouring district of Godavery. The district is well watered and fertile.

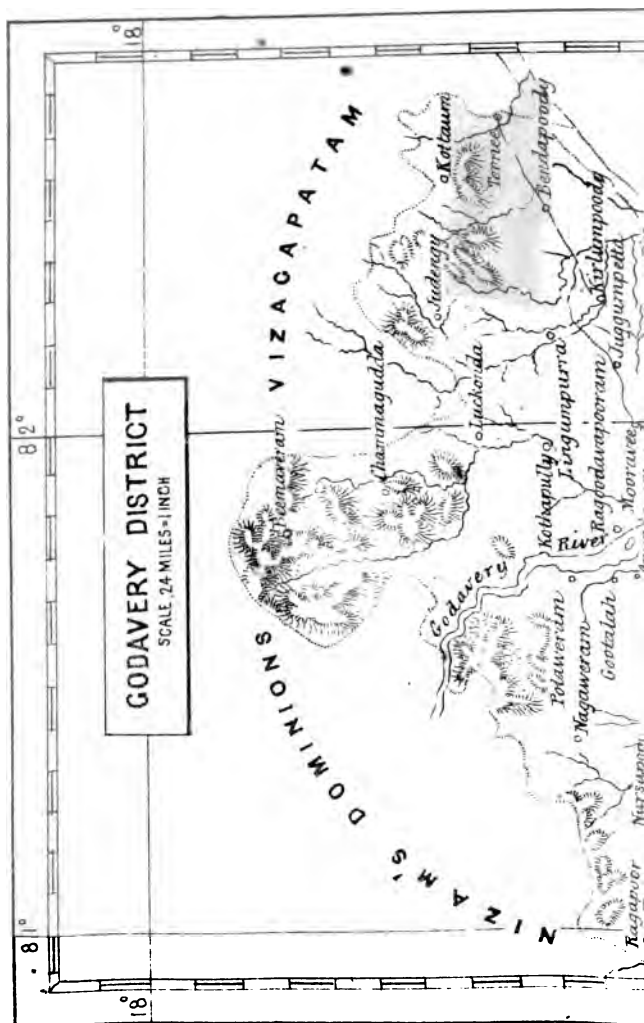
Vizagapatam is almost entirely composed of Zemindaries. Of these the largest is Vizianagram. During the minority of the present Zemindar, or, as he is called, the Vizianagram Rajah, the estate was managed by Government for him, but on his coming of age it was made over to his charge. The town of Vizianagram is a military cantonment, about 30 miles from Vizagapatam. To the North of the district is the Zemindary of Bobilly. The village of the same name was at one time defended by an old fort which sustained for some days an attack made on it by a large body of French troops under M. Bussy ; but the brave defenders were at length all destroyed by the victorious French. No trace of the old fort now remains, but a handsome fortified residence has been built in its stead by the present Zemindar. These large estates are managed by the Zemindars or petty chiefs, themselves, the police only being under the Collector ; but many of the smaller ones are entirely under his charge.

The independence and ill conduct of the hill Zemindars, who occupy villages in the Western range of hills,

which are difficult of access and very unhealthy, have been the cause of much trouble to the Government. They have been frequently in rebellion against it.

There are no rivers of any size in the district, but several streams rise in the hills to the West, and after a course of about 50 miles, empty themselves into the sea.

The number of inhabitants in the Vizagapatam district is 12,54,272.





GODAVERY

Is bounded on the East and South-East by the sea, on the North by Vizagapatam, and on the West by the Kistna district. On the North-West a chain of hills forms the division between it and the Nizam's territory. Through an opening in this chain flows the Godavery river, which passes through the centre of the district till it reaches the sea. This large river flows quite across the Peninsula of India. It takes its rise in the Northern part of the Western Ghats not very far from Bombay, and after a course of more than eight hundred miles, during which many rivers, as the Wurda, Maujara, and others, flow into it, falls into the Bay of Bengal.

Near Rajahmundry it divides into two principal channels, one of which flows towards the East and falls into the sea near Coringa, and the other takes its course towards the South. Besides these large channels, there are many others, both natural and artificial, which spread the waters of the river over the chief part of the district. Like the Kistna and Cavery, this river is partly dry during many months of the year. It becomes filled in the early part of June, by the South-West monsoon which falls on the mountains, where it and its tributary rivers take their rise. When quite full it is nearly three miles across, at its widest part, near the village of Dowlaishwaram, just before it divides into two streams. At this spot a large annicut has been built to stop the water which comes down, during the floods, and to turn it into numerous channels for irrigation. When its bed is nearly dry, beautiful stones, called agates, are found in it.

Rajahmundry is the chief town, and the residence of the Judge. Coringa is an increasing sea port, where ship and boat building is largely carried on. Coconada is also a sea port. Samulcotta, which is the chief town of the large Zemindary of Pittapoor, is now a station for a regiment. The soil of the district is very rich, and large quantities of rice are grown on the lands, watered by the Godavery. Indigo is also cultivated. Formerly the weavers of this district were very rich, and their cloths were much valued, so that large quantities of them were sent to England ; but now this trade has quite failed, and they are only made for sale in the country.

The present number of its inhabitants is 10,12,000.





KISTNA,

The Southernmost of the Northern Circars, is bounded on the North by the Nizam's territory, on the East by the Godavery district and the sea, on the South by the sea, and the district of Nellore, and on the South-West by Kurnool. The district is flat and sandy near the sea coast, but becomes richer in the centre, and is rather hilly towards the West.

There is no river of any size in it, except the Kistna. This is a very fine and large river. It rises in the Western Ghats, a little distance North-West of Satarra, and flows across the continent, passing through the centre of the district till it reaches the Bay of Bengal. About 20 miles from the coast, it divides into two streams. Its tributaries are very many. The chief are the Warna, the Gutpurba, the Malpurba, the Beemah, and the Tungabudra, which all rise in the Western Ghats, with the Moosy which passes Hyderabad, in the Deccan, and the Moonyar, which last falls into the Kistna below Nundygamah, in the Masulipatam district. The Toongabudra is itself a large river, fed by the Toonga and Budra from the Western Ghats.

The waters of the Kistna have not yet been much used for cultivation, on account of its high steep banks, and the rapidity with which the immense body of water which so many streams bring into it, rushes down to the sea during the South-West monsoon. An annicut is now built at Bezwarah, in order that its waters may be kept and used like those of the Cavery, in Tanjore. The portion of this district south of the Kistna formerly called Guntoor was first given to the English in 1766 by the Subadar of the Déccan, the Nizam, under whose

government it then was. He soon after took it back again, but finally gave it up to them in 1785, in order to have their support against Tippoo and the Mahrattas.

The country for about 50 miles inland is perfectly flat. At Condapilly there is a range of hills extending a considerable distance, and another between Ellore and the Nizam's territories. The line of sea coast is low and sandy, and the soil for about five miles inland, in most parts of the district, is too sandy to allow of much cultivation: further inland however it is the rich black earth commonly known as cotton soil, yielding abundant crops of cholum, raggy and other sorts of grain. It is well watered, and that part of the district, lying near the Kistna, is subject to almost periodical inundations owing to the river overflowing its banks. On the islands, in the river and in its neighbourhood, tobacco is grown. The great Northern road passes through the district at Bezwarrah, at which place the Kistna runs between two high hills and is very narrow.

Masulipatam, or as it is more generally called Bunder, is the principal town, and is also a civil and military station.

The fort of Masulipatam is about two miles from the Pettah, separated from it by a salt swamp of considerable extent, across which is a causeway.

There was formerly a large factory here, and it was one of the earliest and most important settlements of the English, being established about the year 1620. The French gained possession of it in 1750, and it was

retaken by Colonel Forde in 1759, since which time it has continued in the possession of the English. The Pettah is very large and populous, being nearly three miles in length and well built. Several very excellent descriptions of cloth are made there for which the place is noted.

Next in importance to Masulipatam is Ellore. This is also a military station. It is situated about 50 miles to the Westward of Masulipatam, and is a large and very populous town. In addition to the manufacture of cloths which is common to the whole district, there is a very excellent description of carpet made there. Between Ellore and the sea coast is the Colair lake, which is of great extent. There is a considerable trade at Masulipatam, and a canal from the sea admits of country vessels reaching the native town and there taking in and discharging their cargo.

At Ventapollum and other places, cloths and handkerchiefs are made, some of which are sent by sea to Madras, and some to Hyderabad and Nagpore. Salt is made to a considerable extent, for sale to traders from the Deccan, also snuff and sealing-wax. Cholum is the principal grain of the district, and chiefly consumed by the lower classes of the inhabitants.

In the Palnaud, which forms the North-West corner of the district, a considerable quantity of cotton is grown, much of which is taken to Vizagapatam, for the manufactures at that and the neighbouring towns and villages. In the Southern part of the district, a very fine breed of cattle, the same as that of Nellore,

is reared. Nizampatam is a sea port with some trade. Near the coast very fine pines are cultivated, which are taken for sale to Hyderabad.

The district contains 9,15,640 inhabitants.

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